

Appl. No. 10/016,853
Amdt. Dated May 3, 2005
Reply to Office action of February 3, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P14738-US1
EUS/J/P/05-1112

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) **Withdrawal of Prior Rejection**

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the consideration of their arguments submitted in response to the prior Office Action, and the withdrawal of his prior rejection.

2.) **Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)**

The Examiner has now rejected claims 1-2, 5-6, 9-10 and 13-14 as being unpatentable over Granberg (US 6,101,382) in view of Tomoike (JP 410013945A), and claims 3-4, 7-8, 11-12 and 15-16 as being unpatentable over Granberg in view of Tomoike and further in view of Grootwassink (US 6725037). The Applicants traverse the rejections.

With respect to claims 1, 5, 9 and 13, the Examiner recognizes that Granberg fails to disclose certain limitations common to each of those claims. Recognizing the deficiencies of Granberg, the Examiner, referring merely to the Abstract of Tomoike, states that all of the limitations not disclosed in Granberg are disclosed in Tomoike. The Examiner, however, has not provided the required translation of Tomoike, nor has the Examiner established the basis for combining the teachings of Granberg and Tomoike. Accordingly, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claims 1, 5, 9 and 13.

Whereas claims 2, -4, 6-8, 10-12 and 14-16 are dependent from claims 1, 5, 9 and 13, respectively, and include the limitations thereof, those claims are also not obvious over Granberg in view of Tomoike or Grootwassink. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 1-16.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-16.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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